Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The health and well-being of all humans are of utmost importance to the prosperity and livelihood of families and communities worldwide; and,

Whereas, Optimal nutrition is of vital significance in the early months and years of life and has a lifelong impact on sustained health; and,

Whereas, Exclusive breast-feeding for the first six months of life and continued breast-feeding, along with the addition of appropriate complementary feeding at six months and beyond, ensures that both mothers and infants receive maximum health benefits; and,

Whereas, Breast milk is physiologically tailored to meet infants' maturing digestive systems, ensuring proper growth and development; and,

Whereas, Breast milk helps prevent a variety of illnesses and many chronic diseases, including SIDS, diarrhea, asthma, diabetes, obesity, and certain childhood cancers; and,

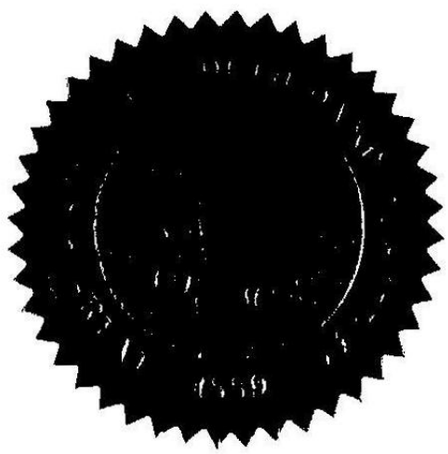
Whereas, Keeping breast-feeding high on the public health agenda is critical in improving the health and well-being of mothers and babies in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, World Breast-feeding Week 2012 is a time to recognize past achievements and future endeavors and to celebrate the 2012 theme, "The Road to Lifelong Health Begins with Breast-feeding":

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 1-7, 2012, as

BREAST-FEEDING AWARENESS WEEK

in South Dakota, and I encourage all South Dakotans to support breast-feeding as a high priority for healthier babies in our communities.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixteenth Day of July in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Judy A. Larson Exec. Asst.

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State